

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 OPR-02 A-01 OMB-01 SCCT-01 AID-05

DHA-02 /063 W

----- 104829

O R 192055Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3875

INFO DIA DOD WASHDC

USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L B U N E O S A I R E S 8 2 9 0

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

DIA DOD FOR DIN-2D4/DIR-3B3

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MILI, AR

SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 6: AIR FORCE REVOLT

1. AT 4:30 P.M. ON NATIONAL RADIO TV NET GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED ITS FIRM REJECTION OF DEMANDS PRESENTED BY REBEL GROUP AND CALLED ON POPULACE TO REMAIN ALERT FOR INSTRUCTIONS. CGT COMMUNIQUE WAS READ IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER ANNOUNCING ITS "FIRM REPUDIATION AND REJECTION OF GOLPISTAS," AND PLACING WORKERS ON STATE OF ALERT.

2. AT 4:50 REBEL AF GROUP IN CLANDESTINE RADIO BROADCAST GAVE ITS ANSWER TO GOVERNMENT'S REJECTION OF ITS DEMANDS. BROADCAST SAID THAT "OPERATIONS WILL CONTINUE AND OUR FLIGHTS OVER THE CITY WILL

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DEMONSTRATE TO THE PEOPLE OUR WILL TO CONTINUE UNTIL WE ACHIEVE

OUR STATED OBJECTIVES." REBEL REJECTION WAS FOLLOWED BY REBEL COMMUNIQUE NO. 5 STATING "WE ARE PASSING THROUGH THE WORST MOMENT IN THE HISTORY OF THE REPUBLIC, AND WE WILL NOT TOLERATE ITS CONTINUANCE."

3. PRIOR TO ABOVE ANNOUNCEMENT, PRESIDENT, CABINET, MILITARY COMMANDERS VIDELA, MASSERA AND AGOSTI, CGT SECRETARY GENERAL HERRERAS AND 62 ORGANIZATIONS CHIEF LORENZO MIGUEL HELD 30-MINUTE MEETING AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE. MILITARY CHIEFS HAD DEPARTED MEETING AT 1500 WITHOUT MAKING ANY STATEMENT.

4. JUST BEFORE MEETING AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE, RADIO RIVADAVIA CARRIED TEXT OF RADIOGRAM REPORTEDLY SENT BY ARMED FORCES COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF VIDELA TO MILITARY UNITS. SALIENT POINTS WERE THAT HE (1) WAS NOT BECOMING INVOLVED IN INTERNAL AIR FORCE CRISIS; (2) RECOGNIZED THE NATIONAL POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF CRISIS, BUT WAS NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH PROPOSALS PUT FORTH FOR RESOLVING IT (I.E., REMOVAL OF MRS. PERON AND VIDELA ASSUMPTION OF PRESIDENCY); (3) URGED APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONS TO ACT RAPIDLY TO SOLVE GRAVE PROBLEMS FACING COUNTRY; AND (4) URGED ARMY TO MAINTAIN UNITY, DISCIPLINE AND DISINTEREST.

5. COMMENT: READ CAREFULLY, VIDELA'S COMMUNIQUE IS IN LINE WITH POSITION HE REPORTEDLY TOOK WITH SENATORS LAST NIGHT (SEE SITREP NO. 5) -- I.E., CIVILIANS SHOULD PRODUCE A SOLUTION.

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